Annual Activity Report 2025-26

as Regional Council Member

by:
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CA Abhishek S. Dhamne
Regional Council Member, WIRC

Dear Members and Students,
Western India Regional Council of ICAI

It is with a deep sense of responsibility and gratitude, I present this **Annual Activity Report for One-Year (2025–26)**, marking the completion of my first year as a Regional Council Member of the Western India Regional Council (WIRC) for the term 2025–29 of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

During the year, I had the privilege of chairing the **AI Committee at WIRC** and serving on the **Research and Exposure Draft Committee**. These responsibilities provided an opportunity to contribute towards technology-driven capacity building, knowledge development, and strengthening the intellectual framework of the profession. The focus has been on enhancing member competence, fostering innovation, and ensuring that our fraternity remains future-ready in a rapidly evolving regulatory and technological environment. I consider this position not as an individual distinction, but as a collective trust reposed by the profession.

Various initiatives have been undertaken during the year for **Professional Development, Student Engagement, Research Participation, and Technology Integration**. This Annual Activity Report attempts to present a concise overview of these efforts. While meaningful strides have been made, much remains to be accomplished, and I remain determined to pursue the unfinished agenda with renewed focus.

I sincerely thank **CA Charanjot Singh Nanda,** (President-ICAI), **CA Prasanna Kumar D.,** (Vice President -ICAI), **CA Chandrashekhar Chitale** (CCM**), CA Ketan Saiya,** (Chairman-WIRC) for their guidance and support during my first year at the Regional Council. My appreciation also extends to CA Piyush Chandak (Vice Chairman-WIRC); CA Jeenal Savla (Secretary-WIRC); CA Fenil Shah (Treasurer-WIRC); CA Jiten Saglani (Chairman-WICASA); and all respected Central Council Members and my fellow Regional Central Council Members for their constant encouragement and collaborative spirit.

I sincerely thank you for the trust and confidence reposed in me. I **R**emain **C**ommitted to **M**embers and Students. Your valuable suggestions and constructive feedback are always welcome and deeply appreciated, as they guide me in serving the profession more effectively.

Yours Proactively,

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Date: February 25, 2026
Place: Mumbai

A. Role Performed at WIRC:

As Chairman of AI at WIRC Committee – Key Highlights:

- Conducted **50+ batches** of AI – Level 1 and 3 batches of Level 2 at WIRC BKC premises, training over **3,000 Chartered Accountants**, thereby building structured AI capacity within the profession.
- **"TechEdge Series"** comprising **20+ virtual knowledge sessions** to keep members updated with emerging AI developments. Recordings are available on the official WIRC YouTube channel for wider accessibility.
- Successfully hosted the **National Conference** on Artificial Intelligence with the theme "Growth through Artificial Intelligence and Network **(gAIn)"**, attended by 550+ participants, fostering dialogue on innovation, governance, and responsible adoption of AI in practice.
- Published the book **"AI & CA – Essential Tools for Today's CA Practice"**, with **5,000+ copies** circulated, providing practical guidance for technology integration in professional engagements.
- Initiated **Corporate tie-ups** for structured AI training programs, enhancing employability and practical exposure for CA members in industry.
- Commenced discussions for a proposed Memorandum of Understanding **(MoU)** with the **Government of Maharashtra** to promote ethical and responsible use of Artificial Intelligence.
- Facilitated 1–2 days **AI Workshops for CA Students** under WICASA at Branch Level, strengthening early-stage technological readiness among future professionals.

As Chairman of Research and Exposure Draft Committee – Key Highlights:

- Published an **E-Compilation on Reporting under CARO (FY 2024-25)** covering CARO disclosures of **30 listed companies** across diverse sectors. The publication serves as a practical reference document for members and is available on the WIRC website.
- Launched and promoted a **Branch-Level Research Competition**, encouraging members to undertake and submit structured, evidence-based research papers, thereby fostering a culture of analytical and technical excellence within the profession.
- Encouraged and supported **Research-oriented** academic pursuits**,** including Ph.D. initiatives by Chartered Accountants, reinforcing the role of the profession in contributing to policy, governance, and nation-building through scholarly work.
- Facilitated **submission of technical suggestions and representations** to ICAI Head office on various Exposure Drafts relating to Accounting Standards, Standards on Auditing, and Ind AS, etc ensuring that members' practical perspectives are reflected in standard-setting processes.

Other initiatives at WIRC – Key Highlights:

- Curated a **Virtual Bank Audit Help Desk** during the Bank Audit Season to addressing more than **40 real-time queries of members**, providing structured guidance and timely technical support during a critical professional assignment period.
- Setting up an **Income Tax Return and Tax Audit Help Desk** at the WIRC level during the tax compliance season. WIRC played a proactive role in compiling members' representations and channelling them to the Income Tax Department through ICAI Head Office, thereby strengthening institutional advocacy and grievance redressal.
- As Vice Chairman at Committee for Members in Industry, organised **Industry-specific technical sessions for Members in Industry**, focusing on sectoral developments, regulatory updates, and emerging compliance frameworks, thereby enhancing domain specialization and practical relevance.

B. **Performance of Branches wherein I was a Branch Nominee:**

Key initiatives taken by Pune Branch of WIRC of ICAI:

- Successfully hosted the **Sub-Regional Conference** at Pune, jointly organised by the **Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad Branches**, with participation of **650+ members**, reflecting strong regional collaboration and professional engagement.
- Hosted for ICAI's flagship **AI Summit 2025 at Pune**, which witnessed **1,200+ member** participants, reinforcing ICAI's leadership in technology-driven professional advancement.
- Conducted the **Global Capability Centres (GCC) Summit**, enabling members to explore emerging opportunities in the GCC ecosystem and diversify avenues of CA practice.
- Launched the much-appreciated **Pune AI Tools Group**, providing a collaborative platform for members to learn, experiment, and implement AI tools in professional practice.
- Achieved notable institutional recognition with the following accolades:
  - **2nd Best Branch** at both Central and Regional Level (Mega Category)
  - **2nd Best Student Association** at Central and Regional Level (Mega Category)

These milestones reflect the Pune Branch's commitment to Excellence, Innovation, and Member-Centric initiatives.

Key initiatives taken by Jalgaon Branch of WIRC of ICAI:

- Successfully conducted various professional development programmes and Student Conferences, ensuring active engagement of both members and students at the branch level.

- Achieved significant recognition through the following accolades:
  - **1st Best Branch Award** at the Regional Level (Small Category)
  - **Certificate of Appreciation for Student Association** (Small Category)

These accomplishments reflect the Jalgaon branch's dedicated efforts toward strengthening professional development and student engagement within the region.

C. Seminars Delivered:

Addressed approximately **1,000+ members** across various forums and delivered sessions on subjects of professional relevance, focusing on Regulatory Developments, Technological Advancements, and Practice Enhancement.

Sl	Name of the POU / Branch / Study Circle	Subjects Deliberated
1	Peer Review Board of ICAI, New Delhi	Compliance with Audit Documentation
2	Committee for Members in Industry and Business of ICAI, New Delhi	Personal Interview Strategies for newly qualified Chartered Accountants
3	Jalgaon	Audit Documentation with the use of Tools
4	Dhule	Standards on Auditing
5	Jalgaon	Rationale and Procedures under Peer Review
6	Pimpri Chinchwad	Standards on Auditing
7	Ahilya Nagar	Rationale and Procedures under Peer Review
8	Pune	Standards on Auditing
9	Sarasbaug CPE Study Circle	Standards on Auditing

D. Meeting Attendance:

Sl	Date	Nos. of Meeting	Physically Attended	Virtually Attended	LOA due to Parallel Commitment at WIRC or Absent
1	WIRC Regional Council Meetings	9	8	1	-
2	WIRC Executive Committee Meeting (Special Invitee)	1	1	-	-
3	Pune ICAI Managing Committee Meetings	24	14	1	9
4	Pune ICAI Infrastructure Committee Meetings	21	13	2	6
5	Jalgaon ICAI Managing Committee Meetings	2	2	-	-
6	Jalgaon ICAI Infrastructure Committee Meetings	3	-	2	1

E. Professional Tools and Updates on WhatsApp Group:

It has been my constant endeavour to equip members with practical and implementation-oriented professional tools. During the year, in addition to the earlier utilities, a **Non-Corporate Entity Reporting Template** was launched. Previously published templates were also comprehensively updated to align with the current year's presentation and reporting requirements.

I am pleased to share that, these tools have collectively witnessed **40,000+ downloads**, reflecting their utility and acceptance within the profession. I remain committed to developing and refining such practice-support resources in the future as well. The tools are available for free download at **www.abhishekdhamne.com**.

Recognising WhatsApp as an effective and accessible mode of communication, I have also been regularly sharing professional updates through a dedicated group comprising **2,000+ members**. Interested Members may join the group to stay informed about important regulatory updates and professional developments **https://chat.whatsapp.com/BvbHiIpMYtvHGqhvny1W4U.**

F. Grievance or Queries Dashboard:

Members and Students' queries are always resolved on priority. Grievance or Queries tracker is maintained so that no queries are left unaddressed:
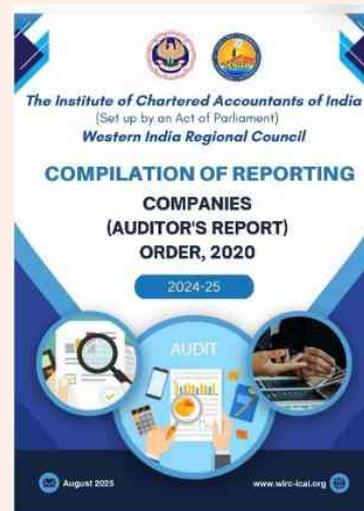
Queries received by Members and Student	Addressed	Pending
80	72	8

I firmly believe that an efficient and technology-enabled ecosystem should be institutionalised so that grievances and queries of members and students are addressed promptly, transparently, and with minimal manual intervention. In the longer term, we at WIRC intend to focus on building such structured, system-driven mechanisms to ensure time-bound resolution and enhanced service delivery.

G. Glimpses of Initiatives - Photo Gallery:

WIRC's maiden publication on AI
"AI & CA – Essential Tools for Today's CA Practice"

E-Compilation on Reporting under CARO
covering CARO disclosures of 30 listed companies across diverse sectors

National Conferene on AI in Mumbai

Standard on Auditing Session at Pune

Witenssing Technology Developments at WoFA 2.0 with CA Ketan Saiya, Chairman-WIRC

Guiness Book of World Record by Career Counselling Committee of ICAI hosted by WIRC, for Largest Careers Advise Lesson having participation of 7,000 + Students

Visit at AI Excellence Centre in at Baramati, Maharashtra

Mr. Ashish Shelar, Information Technology Minister, Government of Maharashtra at AI National Conference